

Dredged Material Disposal in Rhode Island

Fiscal Year 2001 Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill included funds for the Corps of Engineers to initiate efforts, in cooperation with EPA, towards identifying a long-term permanent disposal site for the State of Rhode Island. Disposal of dredged material in ocean waters in Rhode Island falls within the authority of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act. Federal authority for designation of dredged material disposal sites for long term use in ocean waters rests with the Environmental Protection Agency. Following is a tentative schedule of the events and timeframes for getting to a permanent site.

*Letter request of interest/desire to pursue site designation from sponsor	September 21, 2000
**Federal Register – Notice of Intent for EIS for permanent disposal site(s)	April 06, 2001
Scoping meetings with EPA, other Fed, State, and local and public	May 2001-Jul 2001 (5/17 & 5/22 w/public)
Oceanographic Evaluations responding to scoping concerns (tests and evaluations that need to be completed)	July 2001-April 2003
Draft EIS to cooperating agencies/State (proponent)	July 2003
Draft EIS	November 2003
**Federal Register – Notice of intent for proposed rulemaking	November 2003
Public Hearings	November 2003-March 2004
Final EIS	July 2004
**Federal Register – Notice of intent for final rulemaking	July 2004
**EPA Record of Decision	December 2004

* Process was initiated with a request by the State of Rhode Island

** Actions are responsibility of EPA